

HOURS AT THE SHOPS

The Truly Truth About the Much Discussed Spring Gown.

SPRING HATS AND FIXINGS

It Takes Up Room Whether or Not It Is Worn With Crinoline—Its Extra Breadths.

Everybody wants to know just what they both look like. Well, they're odd and that, of course, is recommendation. I was trying to buy a table yesterday and I couldn't do it because the salesman broke the train of my thoughts continually by telling me how "odd" the different pieces were. "If you're looking for an odd bit, now, madam," he would say, "you won't find anything odder than this" or "Step this way, madam, and see what very odd things we have here."

Things used to be "stylish" when they were of such a nature that you were

woman than it was with curiosities of the proprieities of the sex in the sixteen.

But to return a second time to our muteness. At the same opening of which I began to speak I saw a gown, delightful as to color effect, in pale heliotrope and silver. A heavy corded cloth, gleaming with the lights and shadows of the pale moonlike metal was the material of the skirt, but the waistcoat, belt and lower half of the sleeves were of pinkish heliotrope silk edged with velvet.

What was his surprise to see, instead of the refreshing, amber beverage of his soul's desire, the same old steaming Brown Betty teapot, and the cups and saucers of former days.

"Where is the tea, Mary?" he asked.

"There 'ta," she answered, laying her forefinger on the hissing lid of Brown Betty; "and if you can tell any difference between it and plain well water tea, you're smarter than I be."

She had boiled the tea.

Odd Statistics About Thunder. Thunderstorms are more frequent in Java than in any other part of the world, there being an average of 97 days in each year upon which they occur. Next to Java comes Sumatra, which never has less than 86 "thunder days" per year. Then comes Hindostan with 56, Borneo with 54, the African Gold Coast with 53, and the region around Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with 51. The European list is headed by Italy, with 35 thunder days out of the 256, on an average. Austria has 25; Baden, Wurttemburg and Hungary each average 22; Silesia, Bavaria and Belgium have 21; Holland and Saxony, 18; France, Austria and South Russia, 16; Great Britain and Switzerland only 7. At Cairo, Egypt sits in North Russia and in Sweden and Norway the average is only 4 per year. In Finland and East Turkistan thunderstorms are wholly unknown.

Arizona Jasper. The jasperized wood of Arizona has become well known by reason of the many cabinet specimens, paper weights and decorative slabs of it that are sent to the eastern cities, but this is by no means the only petrified forest in this country. In the Hindoo district of the Yellowstone many stumps of trees are found converted to stone, some of them showing knots, grain of the wood, and bark as plainly as the living tree, and the pebbly beaches of the Yellowstone river are strewn with tons of fragments of fossil wood. In the dreary desert of the Dakota Bad Lands leaf impressions are frequently found in the hardened clay, and at Little Missouri, at the point known as the Burning Mountain, where a coal seam has been on fire since nobody knows when, there are half a dozen tree trunks about thirty feet long. This is remarkable on account of the almost total lack of tree life in this region at present.

The Waiting Place of Congress. There is a mourners' corner in one of the cloakrooms of the national house of representatives and another in the senate cloakroom, where the disappointed and disgruntled congregate to express their dissatisfaction with the existing order of things. There is, however, a dining room for the use of the crinoline matrons. The model costume, which thus got its airing was a gray blue serge, eight yards in circumference, not trailing like the walking gowns of last autumn, but just touching the floor. Twelve narrow bands of dark blue velvet were run about it at the bottom, and the bodices bodices being now a minor consideration—was hidden under a lace coat with full flounced skirts coming not quite but almost to the knees. The coat—mantle would be a better word—was close fitted, with a ribbon sash at the waist and enormous puffed velvet sleeves with lace frills. The snugness of its fit was partly hidden under a Watteau of lace in front.

The Women of Ancient Egypt. There is every evidence to prove that the ancient Egyptian women were highly regarded and that a kind of higher education prevailed among them. They transacted business, bequeathed property and acted as regents. Some one has remarked that they must have been good home-makers, for the portraits and statues of Egyptian men represent them with a happy, good-natured expression.

Gave Birth to Midwives. Mrs. Charles Erath, the wife of a tailor in St. Joseph, Mo., a few days ago gave birth to two daughters, one weighing 12 and the other 20 ounces. A quart measure will hold both of the little ones. They are bright and will live. Mrs. Erath weighs about 160 and her husband weighs about 200 pounds.

Sidney Sold for \$27,000. Sidney, the celebrated California horse, was sold at Cleveland for \$27,000. George H. Hammond, of Detroit, was the purchaser.

DETENTHALER is headquarters for fish, poultry, game and oysters.

TO

Fine Dressers!

Our Spring importation of Overcoating, Suiting and Trousering, comprising all the latest novelties in English, French, Scotch, German and Irish goods are now on display in our

Merchant Tailoring Department. We solicit an early inspection of this stock—the finest and largest in the city.

ICE TEA. A True Woman's First Attempt at Making the Delightful Beverage.

There is a certain good woman, the wife of a prominent lawyer of Texas, who has never lived out of the country in which she was born. Her husband attended court at the different towns of the state, and his wife followed to the experiences with wonder and surprise. The Saturday Gazette gives this story:

"It's wonderful, she went on smoothly, that so much has been said against us! And she's a fashion! The new shirts are made of walking length, and are a wonderful improvement on the old, bedraggled hair shirts, which has done so well because nobody could devise a way to kill 'em."

These, however, dress extremer, whatever you can suffer the frock enough to keep it from whirling about the legs when the wind blows, and really make the street look far more comfortable.

She recently chose myself, the grace of the clinging gown, the simple design of the figure formation. Simplicity the standard shirt for more in accord with the idea of the independence, not in any arrangement.

The wife was neither surprised nor



TWO NEW DESIGNS.

supposed to want them; now they are "odd," "picturesque" or even "queer." Among my tables, for example, I saw one with flap down leaves. It wasn't beautiful, but I wanted it immediately. Why? Because it was like tables that used to be old-fashioned and so relegated to the kitchen or the back chamber when I was a little girl. In other words, it was queer. I had to discipline myself for full five minutes before I could bring myself to acknowledge that because the table was an imitation of the old it was not therefore better than the new.

And it's the same way with the spring frocks. They're things we've seen in pictures, just smartened up and Frenchified. Could any living woman resist them? To this moment I think regretfully how the table would have gone with them. It days down so easily out of our muteness. At the smartest of the week's openings I made a study of black satin coats. They're a spring fit and not a bad one, and they're cut, of course, to accommodate the crinoline. There was one which would have been located last autumn; now it's "picturesque" merely. It was to the hips or a little below, the bodices tight-fitting, the skirts full enough to allow for "dress extenders" and yet hanging in liberal folds. Over the shoulders was a little round cap, with a box-plate satin ruche to edge it and folds enough to make it stand flat and platter-like across the shoulders. The sleeves were big bag of muttons, with long

with a wide black ribbon, tied in fat bows and hanging to the ground. The short yoke above the bows was of jet embroidered black silk, with accordian plaited shoulder cape and leg of mutton sleeves. A huge box plaited lace ruff came close about the throat, but the feature of the costume was the empire skirt, whose plait let it take kindly and yet quaintly to the crinoline, and which was edged at the bottom with graduated bands of jetted ribbons.

Bonnet and parasol were provided with this costume also, the one an 1860 poke of black chip with bands of black velvet, white feathers and a paste buckle, and the other a black tarlatan affairs with a bewilderment of ruffles.

Reception day at another modiste's gave interesting disclosures. A pretty girl was brought in and made to circulate in the inner parlors to illustrate the true lines of the in the crinoline matters. The model costume, which thus got its airing was a gray blue serge, eight yards in circumference, not trailing like the walking gowns of last autumn, but just touching the floor. Twelve narrow bands of dark blue velvet were run about it at the bottom, and the bodices bodices being now a minor consideration—was hidden under a lace coat with full flounced skirts coming not quite but almost to the knees. The coat—mantle would be a better word—was close fitted, with a ribbon sash at the waist and enormous puffed velvet sleeves with lace frills. The snugness of its fit was partly hidden under a Watteau of lace in front.

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WANTED—A first-class carver.

Apply to John E. Brown, Michigan Trust Building.

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